



Missions Prayer Calendar

A SIMPLE WAY TO PRAY
FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

MAY

"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few."

MATTHEW 9:37 (ESV)

Introduction

“Pray also for us...”

So states the apostle Paul in Colossians 4:3 (ESV), acknowledging a somewhat stunning reality: though the Christians to whom he was writing were separated from him physically, they could nonetheless participate in his ministry! God’s people could *join* in God’s work of taking the gospel to those who hadn’t heard it simply by praying for their missionary pastor.

These realities are no less true today. As a church, Parkside has been blessed with the opportunity to support many missionaries scattered around the world, all of whom are seeking to share the Good News of Jesus with people who have yet to hear and believe it. Can we really help them, being thousands of miles and numerous time zones away? According to Paul, yes! The purpose of this missionary prayer calendar is to inform you of what is going on in certain parts of the world, and invite you to participate in the work through prayer.

The format is simple. Each day, you will find a missionary or organization that Parkside supports, along with one of their specific prayer requests. You’ll also find a different country of the world and how you can best be praying for the people there.

Our hope in arranging this is that you’ll know the privilege of participating in the work of the gospel, which as Paul also tells the Colossians, is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world. We trust that praying for the nations will increase our heart for the world, causing us to increasingly desire and work towards seeing unbelieving people of all nations become committed followers of Christ!



To see unbelieving people become
committed followers of Jesus Christ.

What You Can Do



Pray

Utilize this booklet and enter into the work of our missionaries via prayer. You can also receive the daily prayer requests in your inbox by signing up for the daily devotional at parksidechurch.com/subscribe.

Join us Sunday evenings for Missions Prayer Time, online or in-person, from 5:00-5:45pm in Room A205. For an online invitation, email Cliff at cjjbandrews@sbcglobal.net.



Learn

Increase your awareness of what God is doing among the nations by reading *Operation World* by Jason Mandryk. The prayer requests for different countries are excerpts from this book. You can pick up a copy at Books by the Park or visit their website, operationworld.org.



Give

Thanks to your generous giving, we were able to allocate \$3,543,635 towards missions in 2023. As we look to the future, it seems there are even more opportunities for us to take the gospel to the world, and we are trusting God for the capacity to do so.



Go

Consider traveling to serve our missionaries or other partners by participating in a short-term mission trip. Watch the bulletin for details on upcoming trips.

Parkside Church Missionaries



E & J*
M, J, C
**Names withheld for security purposes*



Mark & Patti Bean
Andy, Emily, Eric, Ernie



Wes & Nancy Collins
Elisa, Molly, Isaac



Chris & Leanne Harrington
Mark, Lillia, Claire, Graham, Jude



Andrew & Angie James
Nicole, Camille, Zack



Kep & Debbie James
Heather, Katie, Andrew



B & J*
M, O, P, P, G
**Names withheld for security purposes*



Mike & Joan Ross
Steve, Ben, Aaron



Andrew & Angie James, Uruguay

They thank God that they are finally moved into their new church building. This is a huge answer to prayer. Please pray for guidance and unity as they begin the construction and repair process in the main auditorium. Pray that God will continue to bless their evangelistic efforts in the new neighborhood where the church is being established.

Argentina (Latin America). Population: 46,057,866 Believers: 9.1%.

Evangelical Christians grew from less than 1 million in 1980 to possibly over 4.5 million by 2020. Renewal, evangelism, and prayer touched the nation. Argentinean evangelists, teachers, and missionaries touched the world! Godly, united leadership is necessary for the future. Pray for students in the hundreds of seminaries, Bible schools, and programs.



Mike & Joan Ross, Mexico, United States

Pray for wisdom regarding the future of their work in Mexico and how to use the tools that God has provided to reach the lost. Pray that Mike and Joan's extended family would love the Lord with all their hearts.

Praise God for the love shown to the community of San Miguel through the Parkside dental team. Pray that the gospel seeds sown there will bear much fruit. Pray for another pilot to help Amos fly in Mexico. Pray for Gregorio as he continues flight training. Pray that God will open the door for Juan and Amy to serve in a closed country. Pray that God will bless the work of Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) around the world and bring much fruit for the Kingdom.

Armenia (Asia). Population: 2,777,979 Believers: 8.7%. The Armenian Apostolic Church has long been a cultural refuge in times of persecution, but the very traditional nature of the church, which is key to Armenian self-identity, also keeps them from discovering the living Christ. Pray for deep spiritual regeneration of the church and for godly leaders. This church will almost certainly remain the dominant religious force in Armenian life. Therefore, pray that there would be a radical transformation therein that sees Christ glorified and many saved.



Kep & Debbie James, Africa, Latin America, United States

Thank God for the African students Kep & Debbie were able to train in Mali and Senegal, West Africa, during the months of March and April.

Please pray for these students as they go out in teams to plant churches in Muslim areas. Praise God for the Spanish speaking pastors in Virginia who started Equipping Servants International (ESI) groups in recent weeks. Pray for these servants as they meet to study the Bible. Pray for the ILC Church that Kep and Debbie started in Bolivia in 1990, that its leadership will continue honoring Christ by staying true to his Scriptures.

Australia (Pacific). Population: 26,699,482 Believers: 14.4%. The Church in Australia faces a mighty challenge. The strong influence of Christianity declined as the country became more diverse in religions and became more secular in its public life and laws. Many Australians see the Church as intolerant, abusive of its power, and anti-progressive in its values. Pray for revival in the Church that will affect every area of Australian society.

MAY
04

**Emily (& Blake) Ackerson, Bridges International, Australia/
Amy Cottle, OMF, Thailand**

Pray for the 21 small groups, at two major Sydney universities, that will be wrapping up before finals begin in June. Most of these groups have seekers exploring Christianity. Several are growth groups for Christians to go deeper in God's Word. May the Lord use these small groups to draw many to himself. Pray for the potential new campus ministry they hope to start at the University of New South Wales, where there are approximately 20,000 international students. They are partnering with a local church and a campus group. In May, they have an important planning meeting before the start of the new semester in June. Please pray for wisdom and open doors. Blake and Emily are thankful for our continuing prayers for baby Adeline, who is doing well.

Austria (Europe). Population: 8,977,139 Believers: 0.5%. Austria, a nation of culture, music, art, and beautiful scenery, lies for the most part, spiritually empty. While 84% of Austrians believe in God (high for Europe), few have met Jesus personally. Rates of suicide, abortion, and alcoholism indicate the great need for spiritual foundations. Pray for the shell of religion in this nation to be filled by the living presence of Christ.

MAY
05

Truth For Life, United States

Pray for Truth For Life's global translation partners as they travel from numerous countries to meet with the Truth For Life team in person in early May and attend the Basics Conference. Ask God for this to be a time of relationship building, fellowship, and identifying opportunities to work together to bring the gospel, through Alistair's teaching, to a large international audience. Ask God to bring needed team members to Truth For Life in Customer Service and Communications. Pray that God brings individuals with the needed skill sets and hearts for distributing the truth of God's Word.

Azerbaijan (Asia). Population 10,462,904 Believers: 0.2%. God raised up an Azeri Church, even amidst trials! Only 40 known Azeri believers lived in the country in 1991. Now there may possibly be as many as 10,000, with the majority in Baku. Even more ethnic Azeris follow Christ inside of Iran. Even so, most Christians in Azerbaijan are primarily of foreign ethnicities (Armenian, Russian, Georgian, others). Pray for good fellowship among all the believers.

MAY

06

Bobby & Julie, Central Asia

Pray that their family will love and help each other and that their children will get caught up with school. Bobby has been meeting weekly with local young men who are eager to minister. Pray that God will give them grace, wisdom, and strength to plant churches and that God will make it clear to Bobby how he can help them.

Bahamas (Caribbean). Population: 415,223 Believers: 35.9%. Christian commitment is low and nominalism widespread, despite nearly all Bahamians claiming to be Christian. Most households own a Bible; few actively read it. Pray for revival and for a missionary vision among believers. **Bahrain (Asia).** Population: 1,498, 712 Believers: 2.9%. Bahrain enjoys greater freedoms than almost all Gulf countries and therefore is spiritually strategic. With greater freedoms, the accompanying vices are becoming problems. Praise God for the local believers. Pray for spiritual growth and especially for unity and cooperation among these groups, as a testimony to their fellow Arabs.

MAY

07

Jon (& Ruthie), Matt (& Laura) Pheneger, Goran (& Beth) Tomic, Ambassadors Football, United States

Please pray for follow-up with those who were trained in soccer ministry in Brazil (in March) and in Kenya (in April). There is a soccer team tour going to Cyprus this month. Pray for God to raise up a good leadership team for Ambassadors ministry there. Also, this month, Goran will spend a week in Serbia and Croatia meeting with leaders and pastors from various denominations. Pray for wisdom and for fruitful ministry and team building to result.

Bangladesh (Asia). Population: 174,701,211 Believers: 0.4%. Pray for leadership for the churches. Earlier movements brought thousands of people into the Church. But the lack of trained, godly leadership eventually left many believers with a weak and shallow faith. Poverty limits the number of full-time ministers and theological students, but churches also lack spiritually mature lay leaders. In Bangladesh, as in any nation, robust discipleship processes would go a long way to solving these challenges.

MAY

08

Chris & Leanne Harrington, Japan

The people of Noto Peninsula on the west coast of Japan are still in recovery after the New Year's earthquake. A teammate, Tina Lin, has relocated there for at least two to three months to help a local church's recovery efforts. Please pray that this recovery effort would lead to relationships and opportunities to share Christ. Chris will hand over his SEND leadership responsibilities as they prepare to return to America for a one-year Home Assignment. Pray for a smooth transition and specifically for Paul Suzuki as he leads the mission there.

Barbados (Caribbean). Population: 282,309 Believers: 34.2%. Since settlement in 1627, Barbados has been Christian. But despite overwhelming religious profession and a large number of evangelicals, real commitment to the lordship of Jesus is the exception rather than the rule. Pray for the Spirit's renewal and for the Church in Barbados to reawaken. **Belize (Latin America).** Population: 416,656 Believers: 18.8%. Most Belizeans profess Christianity, but only 10% of the population attend church regularly. People need to encounter the true gospel in ways that are meaningful and sensitive to their culture. The Spanish-speaking immigrants sometimes mix Truth with superstitions, the Mayans with paganism, and the Garifuna with black magic. Pray for revival and spiritual conviction for any confusion in beliefs.

MAY
09

Wes & Nancy Collins, Guatemala, Peru, United States

Continue to pray for Byron and the LAMP ministry in Guatemala, that many would hear and respond to God's Word. Wes and Nancy are dealing with ongoing health issues. Wes has Parkinson's disease, and Nancy will have mitral heart valve surgery on May 9. Pray for successful surgery and recovery for Nancy and that Wes' Parkinson's disease will stay stable. They thank God for his faithfulness and blessings even amid these issues.

Belarus (Europe). Population: 9,455,037 Believers: 1.3%. Evangelical Christians are increasing despite concerted opposition and intensifying persecution. The state steadfastly maintains laws that forbid meeting in homes for worship, forming congregations of less than 20 people, opening religious schools, ministering outside of the home city, and importing and distributing non-state-approved literature. Pray for patient, overcoming faith for believers to withstand such difficulties.

MAY
10

**Emily (& Blake) Ackerson, Bridges International, Australia/
Amy Cottle, OMF, Thailand**

Amy asks for prayer for the church plant during the university term break. Attendance will be down without the students. Pray that this will be a time for more people in the community to come and hear about Jesus. Pray for Khian, and her adult son Joke, to come to saving faith. Khian is a widow, and her son has a past drug addiction.

Belgium (Europe). Population: 11,715,774 Believers: 1.2%. The secular worldview seems to have triumphed in Belgium. Atheists and non-religious now number 31% of society. While almost half of the population consider themselves Catholic, only 7% attend mass. The Bible has been reintroduced to Belgian society after many centuries of being discouraged, even banned, by the Catholic Church before 1960. Pray that the Word of God might take root deeply within the fabric of Belgium society.

MAY
11

Parkside Heights Church, United States

Parkside Heights youth will have a retreat May 11-12, in Burton, Ohio. Pray that all who attend will be encouraged as they spend time in God's Word and enjoy activities and meals together. They are thankful for the many college students who have become part of their church family and will miss them as they leave for the summer or graduate. Please pray for the students' continued spiritual growth and that they will have open doors to share the gospel with family and friends.

Bermuda (North America). Population: 63,935 Believers: 24.3%. Bermuda is an earthly paradise, and Christianity is a strong part of its heritage. Sadly, the appearance of religion takes priority over genuine spirituality. Pray for revival that brings lifestyles in line with biblical knowledge. **Bhutan (Asia).** Population: 792,382 Believers: 1.8%. Bhutan is one of the world's least evangelized nations. The continued isolationist policies of the government combined with the highly significant role of the Buddhist monarchy further reinforce the hold of Vajrayana Buddhism. Pray for true spiritual freedom in this "Land of the Dragon".

MAY
12

E & J, North Africa

Last month, when their neighbors finished fasting, E and J shared favorite cookies with them. Please pray that these interactions will gain favor for them and for the message of grace. Several of their brothers and sisters in the church are under a lot of pressure from their families and communities. Pray for two women whose families are confining them to their homes. Ask that our Father will hold them fast and that they will be wise, joyful, and bold, knowing that their hope is not in vain. In April, E made another trip to the "C" region with some colleagues to look for a house, check out schools, meet with business contacts (suppliers, etc.), and complete some paperwork. Pray for favor and forward progress in all those things.

Benin (Africa). Population: 14,080,072 Believers: 8.3%. Animism is a powerful force in Benin. Although Christianity is poised to numerically overtake ethnic religions in the near future, far too many Christians have a syncretized, compromised, faith that sees them in church on Sunday and consulting the witch doctor during the week. Pray for a revival that purifies the Church and sees Christians honoring God alone. Pray also for many witch doctors to experience the power of Jesus and turn to him.

MAY
13

The City Mission, United States

Last month, construction began on the Transitional Housing Project, which will give 16 graduates of Laura's Home the ability to remain on campus with their families and receive supportive services while they work to increase their annual income to afford independent housing. This project will also allow The City Mission to welcome more women and children into Laura's Home. Pray for the support needed to fund all the ministries of The City Mission.

Bolivia (Latin America). Population: 12,567,366 Believers: 16.2%. Evangelical Christians have grown greatly in number and in influence, but face challenges. Some follow false teachings or fail morally without good discipleship and Bible knowledge. Ask God to set apart thousands of new leaders for his use. Evangelicals must help lead Bolivia's battle against poverty, injustice, and evil by allowing Kingdom values to guide their words and deeds. Such believers have potential to greatly impact a nation in need of moral clarity and compassionate work among the poor.

MAY 14 **Equipping Servants International (ESI), Argentina, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Ecuador, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Spain, South Africa, Sweden, Tanzania, Uganda, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia, Zimbabwe**

Pray for the 2,850 ESI participants, in 250 groups, in 30 countries, with 3,200 total graduates since beginning in 2002. Pray that these men and women will grow in their love for God as they study the Scriptures and that they will experience gospel transformation in their lives, relationships, and local churches.

Bosnia (Europe). Population: 3,194,378 Believers: 0.1%. Evangelical believers have increased significantly but still represent only a miniscule proportion of the population. Pray for believers and their witness in this divided land. Bosnia is not a spiritually receptive place; pray that many hearts might open to the gospel.

MAY 15 **Parkside Green, United States**
Please ask the Lord to open doors for Parkside Green's gospel outreach locally as they prepare to hold several themed summer camps for kids. Globally, ask the Lord to bear lasting fruit through the missionaries they support in Dubai, UAE, and Arua, Uganda. Pray for Bryan and Erin Joseph and their four children, who are preparing for fulltime mission work in Mazatlan, Mexico.

Botswana (Africa). Population: 2,719,694 Believers: 8.1%. Botswana is a rare African state—economic growth is steady, corruption rare, and a multiparty democracy the norm. Praise God for the stability that enables the government to build up the nation's infrastructure. Give thanks also for religious freedom and openness, allowing many agencies to establish work there, from evangelism and church planting to more social and holistic ministries.

MAY 16 **Johannes (& Grace) Thaele, South Africa**
The winter season has begun in South Africa, and poor people are faced with the challenge of keeping warm. The youth in the church are collecting clothes and blankets for the needy. Pray for this project to be successful and that the people served will see Jesus through their actions and experience his love over their lives. Pray for many people to participate and that they will be blessed as they give.

Brazil (Latin America). Population: 217,637,297 Believers: 26.3%. The emergence of evangelicals in Brazil has been dramatic. Yet despite the growth, there are many prayer needs. Numerical rather than spiritual growth is the emphasis of too many groups, to the point of dishonest inflation of numbers and disregard for discipleship. As a result, churches have “multiplied,” but congregations are filled with immature, unfed spiritual infants whose faith is overly based on emotionalism, petty legalism, and the personality of leaders.



Church Planting Ministry in South Asia

Thank the Lord for their recent Bible conference. Pray for the recruitment of new students in different parts of their country—that their team will go to the right places and find committed students to apply. Pray for the Lord to give them faithful interns. Pray for the Lord’s hand to continually lead and sustain the work of the ministry of sharing the Word.

British Virgin Islands (Caribbean). Population: 31,763 Believers: 27.3%. The motto of the Virgin Islands is, “Where there’s no vision, the people will perish.” Pray that local Christians might recover a powerful vision for the lost in their own islands and abroad. **Brunei (Asia).** Population: 455,858 Believers: 6.1%. Islam dominates life in Brunei, with a brand that is conservative but not radical. Pray for an atmosphere of religious freedom and spiritual openness and for the observance of the constitutional right for other religions to be practiced. The effective evangelism of Brunei is a target set by several mission groups and by churches in neighboring countries. Pray for an opening for Kingdom workers to minister inside the nation.

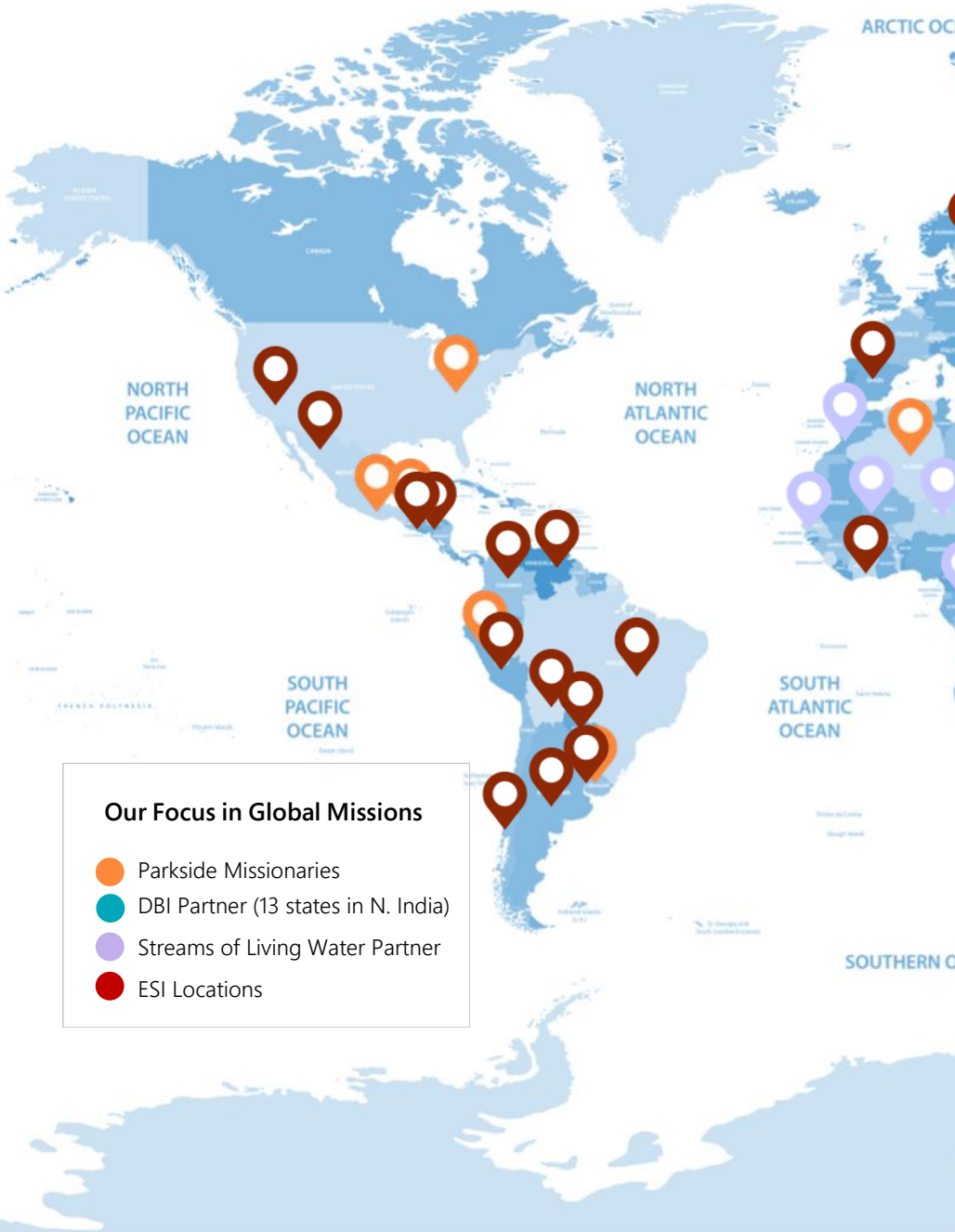


Shoreline Church, United States

Shoreline is grateful for yet another opportunity to offer mini camps for families with young children in the local community this summer. Pray that there will be a gospel impact on the families and volunteers who participate in the Baking Camp, June 11 and 13, as well as the Brick Building Camp, June 18 and 20. Pray that God provides the volunteers needed to help with the annual Ambassadors Soccer Camp they host in July. Thank the Lord for a great school year of outreach for Youth For Christ with the Campus Life Private Schools outreach. The Bible studies at Hathaway Brown, Laurel, Hawken, US, WRA, and other schools are going well. Please pray that God would use the leadership retreat at Kiawah Island in June in a mighty way.

Bulgaria (Europe). Population 6,618,615 Believers: 1.9%. Bulgaria suffered under Communist rule from 1947 to 1989, and troubles remain. Corruption, crime networks, and poverty affect many lives. Abortion, while less than in the past, is still widespread, and divorce is common. The populace continues to age even as its overall numbers have been steadily declining since 1986. Many young people leave Bulgaria (the poorest EU country) to find work and opportunity in other nations. Pray for the Church to demonstrate God’s love in this country where racial tensions are strong, and hope is rare.

The Gospel to the Ends of the Earth







AN UPDATE FROM **SHORELINE CHURCH**

We continue to be encouraged by all the evidence of God's grace to us at Shoreline, both inside and out.

Two years ago, we had the unique opportunity to help Chris Durbin's transition to a lead pastorate at Weymouth Church in Medina. Chris had been an associate pastor, wearing various hats, for the prior eight years. Staff transitions can be challenging, but in this case, it sets a wonderful blueprint for our future. Chris and Laura were an encouragement to many here, and it was tremendously encouraging to help Chris take his next step in pulpit ministry. After Chris was settled, we were able to do a "pulpit swap" between Weymouth and Shoreline for a Sunday, which gave us great joy to see God's goodness on display in many ways.

With the move of Chris and Laura, the door opened for God to bring us Brandon and Anna Sherr. Brandon has transitioned well into the role of Shoreline's youth pastor. We are thankful to see how God has worked in bringing them here and for the wonderful blessing they've already been to many.

One of my joys in ministry is hearing the chatter outside my door near the children's hallway. We are heartened each week as we see more young families

come into our children's ministry. It has been great seeing an expansion of our summer mini camps and weekly children's ministry with "Lunchbox Kids" and "Learning Thru Play."



Outside of Shoreline, our partnerships have grown with increased gospel opportunities. This summer will be our ninth year hosting an Ambassadors Soccer Camp outreach to the Hispanic community in Painesville. We have

seen good progress in ministry within local public schools with FCA and Lifewise. We have been delighted to establish and re-establish connections with Project Hope, Lake County Free Clinic, and the Family Resource Centers in Wickliffe and Painesville City Schools.

While the work goes on in the community, we continue to enjoy progress in baptisms, membership, ministry leadership, and seasonal events. We have so many things to thank God for during this season at Shoreline—both inside and out!

Scott Kennedy
Lead Pastor, Shoreline Church



Photos: Page 1: Shoreline Church building. Page 2: Top: Ambassadors Soccer Camp; Bottom Left: Chris Durbin's Commissioning Sunday; Bottom Right: Brandon & Anna Sherr.

MAY

19

Mark & Patti Bean, Peru, United States

Thank you for praying for Patti's trip to Peru last month. It was obvious that the timing of this trip was orchestrated by God. A conference had just taken place in a big jungle city that brought many church leaders together. The language group that Patti met with had speakers from both Peru and Brazil, and there were more leaders from that language group than she expected. They had a great conversation about their language, its use, their mission work, and their desire to have all of God's Word available to them. Patti and Mark are thankful for our prayers as Mark checked through Numbers and 2 Corinthians for two different translation teams. Now he is working on a consultant check of the book of Deuteronomy. As always, prayer for careful attention to detail is needed.

Burkina Faso (Africa). Population: 23,840,247 Believers: 8.9%. The spirit world is very real in Burkina Faso, where as the saying goes, the population is "50% Muslim, 20% Christian, and 100% animist." The power of the occult has yet to be decisively challenged and broken in many peoples of Burkina Faso. Few countries in West Africa are more dominated by idolatry, fetishism, and secret societies. The occult shows its power even in some churches. Pray for the risen Christ to demonstrate his power and set many free. Pray for Christians to demonstrate the power and authority of the name of Jesus and to live out holy, blameless lives in his name.

MAY

20

Edgar (& Lety) Rivera and Neri (& Karina) Rivera, Mexico

Pray that God would give Edgar wisdom in assembling a Mexican Board for the MAF work in Mexico. Pray for the three ESI groups that he is leading in Oaxaca and for the Bible study he recently started with a new believer in the town of San Lucas, which has been traditionally closed to the gospel. Pray that their ministry in a local church would bear fruit. Pray for continued rehab for Edgar's shoulder. Pray that God would provide open doors for their son, Juan, and his wife, Amy, as they prepare for missions in a closed country. Pray that Neri will have wisdom as he leads ESI groups in Chiapas. Pray for continued growth of the church plant. Doctors are cautiously optimistic about Neri's prognosis after his chemotherapy treatment. Pray for healing and for the whole family during this difficult time.

Burundi (Africa). Population: 13,591,657 Believers: 27.0%. The socio-political situation is one of cautious hope, due to the decades-old enmity between Tutsi and Hutu that boiled into a violent eruption claiming 300,000 lives in the 1990s. Pray for genuine respect and cooperation as these two peoples build Burundi's future together. Due to the past violence and current poverty, leadership for the churches is in short supply. Ask the Lord for financial provision for those who wish to equip themselves for the Lord's service.

MAY

21

Parkside Church Westside, United States

Pray for Parkside Church Westside as they spread the gospel locally and globally. Please pray that they continue to love and serve their neighbors in Lakewood. Pray for the members of Parkside Westside to boldly proclaim Christ in the daily mission fields in which the Lord has placed them. Pray for a church family abroad who is working with a minority language group to advance the gospel in all languages. Continue to pray for the health and safety of Nathanael Wiles and the work he is doing at Tenwek Hospital in Kenya. Pray also for their youth leaders and high school students as they plan a mission trip to Serbia this summer. Pray for the planning of Action Day Camp and that the children who attend Vacation Bible Camp in Bainbridge will come to know and trust Jesus Christ as their Savior.

Cabo Verde Islands (Africa). Population: 604,461 Believers: 6.6%. Economic and ecological problems must be wisely addressed. Scant resources were poorly managed in the past, intensifying Cape Verde's poverty. Pray for government leaders who will make good decisions and develop the economy for the betterment of the whole nation. **Cayman Islands (Caribbean).** Population: 69,885 Believers: 21.3%. With one church for approximately every 500 people, Christian faith and values should (and do) have a significant influence on society—pray that this may continue to be the case amid the materialism and hedonism. The new constitution includes recognition of the Christian heritage of the Cayman Islands. Pray that God's sovereign power would not only be acknowledged in documents but lived out with joy!

MAY

22

Andrew & Angie James, Uruguay

Andrew and Angie thank God for his love, goodness, and grace which daily sustain them. Please pray that they will continue to rely on the Lord and that their children will grow up to love the Lord with all their hearts. Pray that the youth, small group ministry, and ESI ministry will be a blessing in the lives of all involved.

Cambodia (Asia). Population: 17,121,847 Believers: 1.6%. Spiritual darkness persists in Cambodia and must be lifted by prayer. That darkness is seen in ubiquitous spirit shrines, Buddhism's opposition to any ideological rival, and a general moral collapse. Pray for the light of the gospel to so shine that the structures of society as well as of individuals may be decisively changed.

MAY

23

Human Coalition (Health for Her Cleveland), United States

They thank God for their new ultrasound machine, provided by the Knights of Columbus. They also thank him for providing a new nurse for the center. Pray for her as she comes on board for training and adjusts to their team and its mission. Pray that God will provide toiletries for the babies—lotion, shampoo, baby wash, and Dreft detergent.

Cameroon (Africa). Population: 29,394,433 Believers: 9.0%. Leadership and discipleship training in the churches are urgent needs, as Cameroon's churches struggle with shallow and biblically illiterate Christianity. Today's spiritual mess has its roots in a failure in theological training. Pray for godly leaders who are well rooted in the Scriptures, as well as for a spiritual revolution in theological faculties and seminaries that will bring new life and biblical standards to churches so long deprived.

MAY
24

Indigenous Church Planting Organization in Arab and Muslim Countries

Pray for Brother Phillip as he travels to Burundi, Rwanda, and Benin to visit and set up more schools. Pray for safe travels, and good health.

Continue to pray for their workers in Mauritania, Mali, and Chad who are undergoing persecution, and for protection for the workers in Sudan amidst the fighting there. Pray for all their leaders to live lives of holiness and to model godly living for their students. Pray for the leaders of the school in Burundi. They were arrested due to insufficient paperwork. They have since been released, but please pray for no more trouble or repercussions.

Canada (North America). Population: 39,107,046 Believers: 7.7%. One of the world's leading industrial nations with the lowest public debt of G8 nations, Canada is marked by freedom of religion; however, rapid secularization and pluralization are taking place at every level. The influence of Christianity has seen a long, sustained decline in Canadian society. Pray for a much-needed revival, starting in the church and radiating outward to address the failure of relevance, morals, and theological and spiritual dynamism in the Church. Pray that Canadian Christians would be more concerned with being loving witnesses to the gospel than with political agendas and culture wars.

MAY
25

E & J, North Africa

With the month of fasting over, pray that E and J would continue to be bold as they proclaim the emptiness of good works not done in faith.

The church building in their city is now the last one open (out of 48 registered meeting places). Pray that their brothers and sisters would use the building well, serving the saints around the country, and that they will be ready to meet in homes or other places if their building is also shut down. Pray for wisdom and favor for others as they face accusations from authorities.

Central African Republic (CAR) (Africa). Population: 5,915,627 Believers: 32.3%. The CAR was one of the world's most evangelized nations, but the upheavals here and in nearby Chad and Sudan mean the progress in some regions has reversed. Muslims grew rapidly in influence, especially in the cities. Few Christians feel equipped to reach out to them. Pray for all CAR denominations to send students for missionary training. Pray that those with training would resist the draw to serve as a city pastor and instead go to the unreached.

MAY

26

Fieldstone Counseling, United States

Pray for wisdom and encouragement for their counselors as they offer Christ-centered care to those who are struggling. Pray for upcoming equipping opportunities, including a support group called

Forgiveness: A Footpath to Freedom. This online support group is designed to help participants walk through the process of forgiveness with clarity and hope through four online sessions. Pray that the group helps participants practically engage their struggles while moving forward spiritually and emotionally toward true freedom.

Chad (Africa). Population: 18,847,148 Believers: 10.1%. Many Muslims have heard the good news! New groups of believers from Muslim backgrounds have emerged. Bible storytelling and Chadian Arabic Christian radio help spread the gospel in culturally relevant ways. Violence in nearby Darfur at the hands of other Muslims caused some to question Islam and left them open to the loving ministry and witness of Christians. Still, Islam grows in numbers, and in financial and social influence. Pray that Christians will learn to reach out to the Muslims around them.

MAY

27

Chris & Leanne Harrington, Japan

Chris and Leanne are preparing to return to the U.S. for a year and are transferring the ministry duties to others on the field. Please pray these transitions will go smoothly and for those taking on new responsibilities.

Pray also for their kids as they leave their school and friends in Japan. Pray they will have grace for each other during this time when so many emotions need to be worked out. Pray for their family as they pack up their house and move things into storage on May 27. They are thankful for our prayers throughout these past four years and look forward to seeing us soon.

Chile (Latin America). Population: 19,658,839 Believers: 18.4%. Student witness needs strengthening in the 54 universities and colleges and among the 500,000 students. Chile's evangelicals need to focus much more on reaching and discipling young people. Systematic inequalities and underinvestment in education prompted massive student demonstrations in 2006, which in turn forced government reforms. Pray for students to find their identity in Christ and not in the many other alternatives they face.

MAY

28

Scranton Road Bible Church, United States

As they continue reading and preaching through the Bible as a church, pray that the Lord will fill them with awe at the power, majesty, and goodness of his Word. They are grateful for God's provision in the past

and ask for prayer as their staff and elders work through a budget for the next fiscal year. Their benevolence team is also reworking some of the benevolence policies and their vision for mercy ministry. Pray that the Lord will provide wisdom on how to best help individuals and families. One of their missionaries is having some visa problems; pray that he will find favor in the eyes of government officials.

Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region of China) (Asia).

Population: 7,496,681 Believers: 6.1%. The massive protests of 2019 seem a distant memory as Beijing's grip on Hong Kong has relentlessly squeezed out all effective opposition to its control. Divisions in the Church over the protests and associated politics need to be healed and believers need to be reconciled. Although the setbacks to Hong Kong's freedoms can be discouraging, believers in China itself have demonstrated that the flame of the gospel cannot be snuffed out by even the most brutal oppression. May the Church in Hong Kong learn how to be a powerful witness amidst the profound changes it is experiencing.

MAY

29

Kep & Debbie James, Africa, Latin America, United States

Thank God for the many ESI groups Elias has trained in Brazil, and for the groups Paulo has started across Africa in recent months. Pray that as these pastors and church leaders study Romans together, they will grow in their understanding of the gospel and in their love for Jesus, so that they will be committed to studying the Bible and to teaching and preaching it in their local churches. Pray for the African pastors who will attend the London ESI facilitator training conference in June that Kep will lead. Pray that many believers will commit to studying God's Word and will experience the deep change that only Jesus can bring.

People's Republic of China (Asia). Population: 1,425,178,782 Believers: 5.7%.

The survival and growth of the Church in China are two of the most decisive events of our generation. The window of opportunity for spiritual receptivity might not be open indefinitely. China today faces materialism—with increasing wealth, the debilitating effects of spreading corruption, moral decline, and the growing social and economic impact of the one-child policy. All of these may profoundly affect the spiritual openness of the nation and the Church itself. Pray that the Refiner's fire might keep burning and that the Church's spiritual cutting edge—honed in the midst of persecution—might not be blunted.

MAY

30

Bobby & Julie, Central Asia

After not being able to connect for some time, Bobby talked with his friend, David, in China, who was recently baptized. Things are hard there economically. Pray for David and the persecuted church in China, that the believers would be bold and courageous to share and love without fear. Pray for God's favor on them. Pray for Bobby and Julie as they resume Russian language classes.

Republic of China, Taiwan, (Asia). Population: 23,950,214 Believers: 2.8%. Taiwan remains a stronghold of Buddhism and Taiwanese folk religion. Over 90% of Taiwanese follow some combination of Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism, and traditional religions. Buddhism now grows strongly among educated professionals. Most traditional folk religions have many gods, and people pay offerings to ghosts or seek advice from the spirit world. Taiwan remains the only major Han Chinese population in the world without a significant spiritual breakthrough. Pray that this will change.



Jon (& Ruthie), Matt (& Laura) Pheneger, Goran (& Beth) Tomic, Ambassadors Football, United States

In April, Jon and Matt traveled to Africa where, over a period of five days, they trained 96 coaches from the country of Kenya to launch the soccer outreach program DT6—a year-round discipleship program for children. The coaches returned to 56 locations across Kenya to work with their local churches and with at least one primary school in each location. Please pray for this new ministry opportunity. They estimate that between 3-5 thousand children will be learning the Word of God weekly. Pray also for the recruiting of coaches for the summer soccer camps in the U.S., Ireland, England, the Czech Republic, and Holland. Currently, they have people from 16 countries as a part of the coaching teams that will serve in over 30 camps around the country and overseas. Pray that they will be trained to return to their own countries to minister through soccer.

Colombia (Latin America). Population: 52,340,774 Believers: 7.5%. Satan's hold on Colombia must be broken by prayer. Pray for Christ's lordship to be proclaimed over spirits of violence, revenge, lawlessness, corruptions, and occult practices. Missionaries are targets for the enemies of the gospel, both physical and spiritual. Pray for courage and faithfulness for both native and expatriate missionaries.

Global prayer requests were taken or adapted from Operation World, 7th Edition (2010), www.operationworld.org, and Pray for the World (2015). Both books are published by InterVarsity Press. All rights reserved.

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Missions: More than Money

Several years ago the elders at Parkside moved from supporting many people with a little bit of funding to supporting a smaller amount of people with a lot of funding. The idea behind this transition was to strengthen the relationship between our church and our missionaries, that we might adequately care for them while on the field and that they might sharpen our desire to see unbelievers reached for Christ.

Practically, this means that our primary approach is now to cover 100% of our missionaries' financial needs so that they can focus their time and energy on their ministry rather than on raising support. When they are home, we provide housing and transportation. When they are away, we speak with them regularly and highlight their activity through various avenues so that our people can stay abreast of their progress and enter into their work by praying for them. Our role does not replace the work of mission agencies, but we seek to provide our missionaries with ongoing care in one place so that they might be most effective for the Kingdom.

As detailed in the pages that follow, we still offer partial financial support to some of the missionaries who we had been partnering with before the transition, as well as some other organizations and individuals.

Learn more about our missionaries and locate contact information for them at www.parksidechurch.com/missions.

Full Financial Support of Parkside Missionaries

North Africa	E & J
Japan	Chris & Leanne Harrington
Uruguay	Andrew & Angie James
Africa/Latin America/United States	Kep & Debbie James
Central Asia	Bobby & Julie

Partial Financial Support of Parkside Missionaries

Peru/United States	Mark & Patti Bean
Guatemala/Peru/United States	Wes & Nancy Collins
Mexico/United States	Mike & Joan Ross

Financial Support of Nationals

- Bolivia & Around the World**
- 20 Bolivians serve as Pastoral Assistants (PAs), a pastor-in-training role. The PAs receive differing levels of support from Parkside Church depending on how long they have been involved and how they are serving.
 - Equipping Servants International (ESI) is a three-year, part-time course designed to teach people how to think and live biblically. ESI has had 3,200 graduates since 2002, and has 2,850 active participants, in 250 groups, meeting in 30 countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Ecuador, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Spain, South Africa, Sweden, Tanzania, Uganda, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Parkside Church has, and continues to assist in providing participants with the required materials.
- Mexico**
- 2 Mexican pastors, Edgar (& Lety) Rivera and Neri (& Karina) Rivera, receive partial financial support from Parkside. They are currently teaching 75 Mexicans to think and live biblically through the Equipping Servants International (ESI) program in Oaxaca, Chiapas, and Tapachula.
- South Asia**
- 20 full-time church planting missionaries were trained and sent out, fully supported by Parkside Church.
 - 12 students are enrolled in a 9-month, full-time preaching training course, fully supported by Parkside Church.
- South Africa**
- Johannes (& Grace) Thaele, a South African pastor working fulltime with students in the farm schools, local church, and university in Bloemfontein, receives full financial support from Parkside Church.

Financial Support to Mission Partners and Local Churches

Fieldstone Counseling	Parkside Church Westside
Hope for Glasgow	Parkside Green
Human Coalition Cleveland	Parkside Heights Church
The City Mission	Scranton Road Bible Church
Truth For Life	Shoreline Church
Indigenous Church Planting Organization in Arab & Muslim Countries	

Financial Support to Mission Individuals

Emily (& Blake) Ackerson	Amy Cottle
Jon (& Ruthie)	Matt (& Laura) Pheneger
Goran (& Beth) Tomic	

Parkside Church funding of Missions in 2023: \$3,543, 635

Get Involved

in a short-term missions trip

South Asia

Medical/Dental Outreach

Trip Dates: March 6-16, 2025

To find out more about joining a future short-term team,
please contact the church office at 440.543.1212
or visit parksidechurch.com/missions.



PARKSIDE
CHURCH

To see unbelieving people become
committed followers of Jesus Christ.